

CH  
A  
B  
N





DEKALB  
CHURCH  
BRETHREN  
CEDAR  
CREEK  
B3

ECKHART PUBLIC LIBRARY  
603 S. Jackson St.  
Auburn, IN 46706



B  
977.277  
CH3  
genealogy



*This book of history  
and loving memories  
is dedicated to  
those who made it possible.*

*Published August 1998*







## OUR LITTLE CHURCH

In a quiet little village  
 'Midst the woods and fields of green  
 Stands a little country church house  
 Lending beauty to the scene.

More than one hundred years its  
 stood there  
 In that peaceful little vale,  
 Calling souls to look to Jesus  
 For a hope that cannot fail.

Within its old familiar walls  
 Our Fathers met to pray,  
 And often they besought the lord  
 For us who live today.

One every Sunday morning  
 A message may be heard  
 That is full of inspiration  
 From God's own Holy word.

While hymns of praise  
 And words of prayer  
 From humble heart  
 Are lifted there.

And with the service ended  
 Our friends and dear ones greeting,  
 A fellowship that's warm and true  
 Is found at every meeting.

Oh, friends of our community  
 Who do not know the Savior,  
 Come with us to our little church  
 And seek the Father's favor.

Then when you've learned to love  
 the Lord  
 You all to Jesus giving;  
 You'll find each service you attend  
 A help to Christian living.

What happy days and tender scenes  
 Our memory oft recalls,  
 Of meetings and of partings  
 Within those hallowed walls.

Long may we meet and worship  
 In that little church there  
 'Til god Our Father calls us home  
 To heavenly mansions fair.

Revised  
 M. Leah Hogue







## HISTORY OF THE CEDAR CREEK CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN (1873-1998)

The history of the Cedar Creek Church of the Brethren can't be completely told unless we acquaint ourselves with its beginning roots.

Our church denomination had its beginning in Germany in 1708. It was known as the German Baptist Brethren which was officially changed in 1908 to Church of the Brethren. It came about as sort of cross from the Pietistic and Anabaptist movements in religion of that period.

The forefathers of the church believed that people who accepted Christ as Lord and Savior should live a Christ-like life and that the inner Christian life was more important than church organization. They were rather strict in their adherence to certain Biblical teachings, and expected fellow disciples to do the same. Because of these strict beliefs they were, for some time recognized by many other Churches as a sect rather than a Church.

The name German Baptist Brethren denoted the country where the group originated. The word Baptist implied that they believed in "believer's baptism", that is, the person himself decided if he wanted to be baptized. A strong emphasis was placed on the term Brethren because they believed that anyone who accepted Christ as Lord and Savior were often referred to as "those Brethren". It was after 200 years that their name was changed to Church of the Brethren.

The Church of the Brethren began, as stated before, in 1708 with a brotherhood of eight persons in Schwarzenau, Germany. Due to economic reasons and persecution in central Germany, one group, under the leadership of Peter Becker, came to America in 1719 from Krefeld to take up free lands offered by William Penn. These members settled in Germantown, near Philadelphia, where they were joined in 1729 by 59 families and were brought across the Atlantic by Alexander Mack. From Pennsylvania they spread across the country. In later years several other Brethren groups branched off from the main body.

In their early days at Germantown they printed the first German Bible in America and the first American religious magazine in 1743 and 1764, respectively.

When the Brethren forefathers came to America, they associated with the Quakers. Due to this association a number of ways of doing things were patterned after the Quakers such as the style of their meeting places for worship (called Meeting Houses). They were simple in style and almost barn like in





appearance. The plain dress of the Brethren was also patterned after the Quakers. So was some of their church government such as the Annual and the Quarterly Meeting.

The German speech of the Brethren, their opposition to war, and their insistence upon the inner Christian life being more important than church organization made them a suspected group from the beginning. Morally they opposed the Revolution and were in opposition to slavery and the war effort during the Civil War. The misunderstanding and suspicion of the group lessened as time went on. Today, historians commend the contributions of the Brethren to American democracy. In our own day the work of the Brethren pacifists in World War II and their outstanding efforts in relief to Europe has earned the Church respect in American Protestantism.

The preceding paragraphs give only a partial account of the story of the Brethren. The paragraphs that follow will deal more with the history of the Cedar Creek congregation.

In 1853 some families moved from Miami County, Ohio to Allen, DeKalb, and Noble Counties, Indiana. Among these were Jeremiah and Jacob Gump and their companions. Elder George W. Studebaker, of Delaware County, soon came into this territory, preaching, and the Gumps, with others, united with the church. The same fall the two brothers, Jeremiah and Jacob Gump were chosen to the ministry. The meeting for this election was held in the house of Samuel Shadows, who lived just south of Avilla. The meeting was held in the cabin loft. Those who attended it reached the room by climbing a ladder and going through a small window. Elders James Tracy, Jacob Berkey and John Miller were present. Samuel Snider and Jonathon Wolfe were elected to the deacon's office the same day.

The Cedar Creek Church prospered under the preaching of the Gump brothers. Elder George W. Studebaker took great delight in visiting and preaching for these members. Also, Jeremiah Gump was a great evangelist of those days. He spent much time preaching in this large territory. Many were brought into the church and became pillars in the church.

In 1873 the Cedar Creek Church had 125 members and they were widely scattered. It was thought best to divide the territory. That to the west was known as Pleasant Hill and to the north was Cedar Lake. To the east the church was known as Little St. Joe and to the center and south was Cedar Creek. Elder Jacob Gump was given charge of the last three, while Jeremiah retained charge of Pleasant Hill, near his home. James Barton was a minister at Cedar Creek and Harrison Elson at St. Joe. This last church never prospered. In 1914 it was disorganized and most of the members going either to Hicksville, Ohio or to Cedar Creek.





The church record June 20, 1896 shows that a poor fund was maintained, this being replenished at each business meeting. The fund was maintained for many years.

Some of the presiding elders down through the years were as follows: Jacob Gump, John Stafford, C.G. Fair, Jesse Gump, David Hoover, C.W. Warstler, Manly Deeter, J. H. Urey, Christian Metzler, A. F. Morris, Charles Gump, J. S. Flory and Arlo Gump.

The Sunday school at Cedar Creek was organized at the regular council meeting of the church on March 18, 1899. The first session was held the first Sunday in April of that year with the following officers in charge: Superintendent, Sadie Ober; Assistant Superintendent, M. A. Hanson; Secretary, Sarah Waggent; Chorister, M. A. Hanson.

Some of the Sunday school superintendents of the later years have been Wilbur Stonestreet, Gerry Gump, A. C. Lung, Lawrence Smith, Walter Lung, and Jesse Ober.

Two important outgrowths of the Cedar Creek Sunday school have been the organizing of the Daily Vacation Bible School in 1928 under the guidance of Rev. A. F. Morris. A short time later the Children's Department was organized to meet the need for more specialized Bible instruction of the children. Since its beginning a special emphasis has been given to the Vacation Bible School in the church school program.

The first Meeting House of the congregation was built in 1885. There were two doors on the front and two doors on the back so men and women could enter separate doors and sit separately in worship.







The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building of the church house was celebrated September 29, 1935. President Otho Winger of Manchester College gave the message on "The Church, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow".

The church house was remodeled in 1925 and made with one front central entrance, and the two back exit doors remaining. A balcony was added and classrooms were made on the main floor, balcony and basement.

On April 29, 1956 there was ground-breaking ceremonies for the new educational addition. The front and rear of the sanctuary were reversed, a large stained glass window was added and the entrance was changed. In both of these remodeling projects, that of 1925 and 1956, the church is indebted to Francis Hogue, a member of the church and a skilled carpenter. Many other hands took part in both projects. Dedication for the new educational area, remodeled sanctuary, fellowship hall and heating system was held on October 27, 1957.

In 1967 two lots were bought in Cedar Creek back of the old parsonage, two old houses were demolished and money was willed to the church in the Gerry and Effie Gump estate. Plans were begun for a new parsonage.







In April 1969 plans were approved for a new Pastor's study. Dedication was held for the new parsonage on June 14, 1970.

In the fall of 1971, the Women's Fellowship was given permission to decorate two Sunday school rooms for a lounge. Carpet was installed and lounge-type furniture was purchased.

The organ was purchased and installed in 1972, carpeting was placed in the sanctuary, and new siding was put on the outside of the church.



The 1980's were difficult times for the Cedar Creek Church. There were cutbacks in the budget and some activities due to lack of funds. There was no Vacation Bible School for several years. It was a struggle for the church to survive and there were discussions about closing the church. With help from the District and the determination of church members, the church remained open and rebounded back from their difficulties.

In 1989-1990 the parsonage was redecorated with 300-400 hours of donated labor. During the 1990's many improvements were made to the church and grounds. A storage shed was purchased in 1993. New blue hymnals were purchased in 1994 by church families and dedicated to special individuals. New carpeting and curtains were put in the upstairs classrooms (1995) and nursery (1990). In 1996 a chair lift was built to make the church handicapped accessible and new landscaping was added to the lawn. A new church roof was added in 1997.





For many years the church was served by the free ministry. Since 1916 the Following have served as pastors:



C.W. Warstler	1916-1918	Glenn Mulligan	1972-1973 (Interim)
Benjamin Kerlin	1919-1921	Kenneth Hollinger	1973-1976
T.G. Weaver	1921-1924	James Simmons	1976-1978
R.A. Sherman	1924-1925	Gordon Klopfenstein	1978-1979
Emmert Stover	1925-1926	Eldon Krider	1980-1983
A.F. Morris	1926-1939	Glenn Mulligan	1983-1984 (Interim)
J.S. Flory	1939-1944	Wanda Callahan	1984-1986
Harold meyers	1944-1945	Paul Thomas	1986-1987
Arlo Gump	1945-1949	Michael Smith	1987-1989
Glenn Mulligan	1949-1966	Ernest Jehnsen	1989 (Interim)
Ora DeLauter	1966-1967 (Interim)	W. David Albright	1989-1991
Michael Hodson	1968-1970	Ernest Jehnsen	1991 (Interim)
Robert Knechel	1970-1972	John McFarland	1991-Present









Bro. David Hoover and Family  
 One of the last who served the church  
 in the free ministry which extended up until 1916.



Rev. Benjamin Kerlin and Family  
 1919-1921







Rev. T.G. Weaver and Family  
1921-1924



Rev. and Mrs. R. A. Sherman  
1924-1925



Pastor Emmet Stover and Family  
1925-1926







Rev. and Mrs. John Flory  
1939-1944



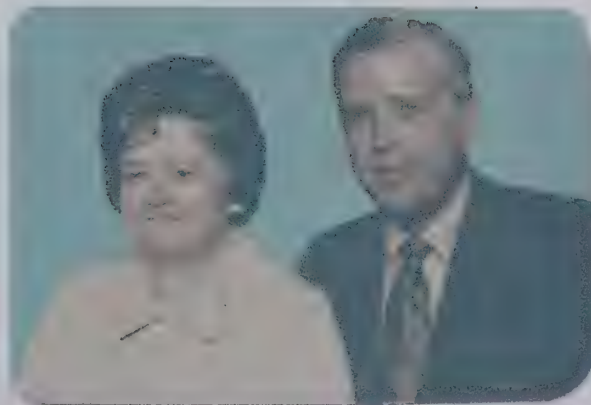
Rev. and Mrs. A. F. Morris  
1926-1939



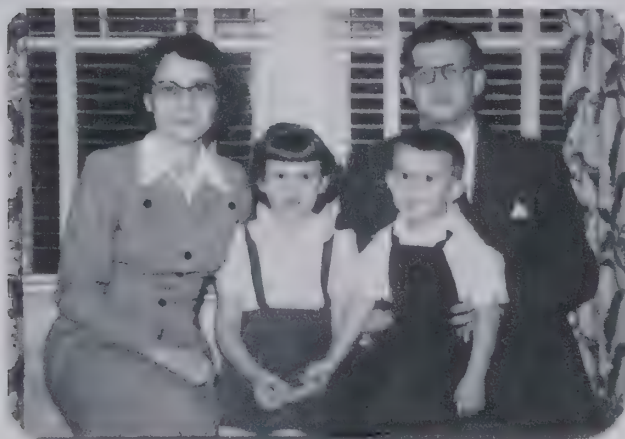
Rev. and Mrs. Harold Meyers  
1944-1945







Rev. and Mrs. Arlo Gump  
1945-1949



Rev. and Mrs. Glenn Mulligan & Family  
1949-1966  
1972-1973 and 1983-1984 (Interim)



Rev. Ora Delauter  
1966-1967 (Interim)



Rev. and Mrs. Michael Hodson  
1968-1970





Rev. Robert Knechel  
1970-1972



Rev. Kenneth Hollinger  
1973-1976



Rev. James Simmons & Family  
1976-1978



Rev. Gordon Klopfenstein & Family  
1978-1979



Rev. and Mrs. Eldon Krider & Family  
1980-1983







Pastor Wanda and Callie Callahan  
1984-1986



Rev. Michael Smith  
1987-1989



Rev. W. David and Anne Albright  
1989-1991



Rev. John and Naomi McFarland  
1991-Present





## DEACONS

It was the general attitude and practice of the deacons until the last half - century or more to serve the church in a very positive way. It was they who took it upon themselves to visit any members of the congregation who might be sick or have any spiritual problem. It was they who administered to the poor and needy if there were any in the congregation who required help.

There were those in the congregation who looked forward to the "yearly visit" and some who didn't. The question that was asked during that visit was, " Are you still firmly in the faith?"

It was the responsibility of the deacons to see that the "love feast" and communion was observed. The communion service has always held a central place in the ordinances of the Brethren. Full communion was observed in the setting of the love feast which consisted of the feet washing service (symbol of cleansing and humility), full meal (symbol of fellowship of Christians with one another, and the Eucharist (symbol of communion of the believers with the Lord.)

In the thirties before the church was remodeled, the straight back church seats in the sanctuary were turned around facing east and west. Large plank boards, stored in the basement, were brought up and placed on the seats making tables for the fellowship meal. Linen tablecloths covered the tables. Men sat on one side of the church and women on the other. Sometimes, a young baby was brought to communion. They could be placed on the seat under the table in front of the mother.

Visitors were always welcome but did not participate.

Foot tubs were filled with warm water and the feet washing began. Deacons were assigned different scriptures to read and some led in prayer. Songs were sung intermittently.

In the 70's, a new approach was tried. Men went back to one room for feet washing and the women to another. If there were those who did not wish to participate, they could stay in the sanctuary. Also, a time or two, sandwiches were served instead of meat, bread, and broth. But neither of those changes was adopted.

Sometime later, the full communion service was taken to the basement and has remained that way ever since.

By Walter Lung



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Mary Hanson was elected first president of the aid society of Cedar Creek when it was organized on March 18, 1916.

As I think back, over the 71 years I've been a member of Cedar Creek, I can see the Ladies coming to church in their aprons and dust caps with mops, buckets and cleaning materials. There wasn't money to hire the cleaning done, so the Ladies took over and did a fine job.

When the Ladies met at a sister's home they took covered dishes for a great potluck dinner. Some of us older children would entertain the little ones so the Ladies could piece quilt tops and comforter tops. Then they would quilt or knot the comforters. They would also tear old clothing into strips to make rag rugs. (That was a big money maker.)

A few years later, I was taking food, my portable sewing machine and my little ones. I would spend the day sewing lap robes, baby layettes or whatever needed to be done.

We still send layettes, health kits, school kits, and money to the district and missions. We send dues to Timbercrest Home and make a quilt block to send to Annual Conference. They quilt these blocks during conference and auction the quilts to make money.

We have always helped the needy in the community by taking in food when there is sickness or a death. The women have served many funeral dinners.

At Christmas we adopt a family that needs help and buy clothes and food for them.

Many of our group are older or have small children, so we don't clean the church anymore. We hire the cleaning done.

We make our money every fall, canning mince meat and apple pie filling. We serve lunch to the public, and have a bake sale. When we get together to work in the kitchen, some of the men and our pastor really help lift the heavy load by peeling apples. The work is hard but the fellowship is great!

We also have served wedding rehearsal dinners and serve two election boards. Last year we gave money for the new church roof.

We have "secret sisters" that we send gifts and cards to during the year. It is fun trying to guess who has our name.





As I look over the congregation now, I see some of the little ones that I played with and "kept out of the way". Now they are grandparents and still coming and working in the church. Does that make me sound old? I have been blessed with a great family and good health. I hope I have more years to serve and worship here.

By: Eloise Knott



LADIES' AID, 1947





## EARLY HISTORY OF MENS FELLOWSHIP

Rev. Glenn Mulligan presided over the first meeting of the Men's group Nov. 2, 1949 in the church basement. The following officers were elected: President, Robert Knott, Vice-President, Walter Lung, Secretary-Treasurer, Carl Gerber. It was decided by vote to meet the first Monday of every month. A committee was chosen by the new president to select a name for the organization. The new committee included Jesse Ober, Gerry Gump, and Dale Yarde. Walter Lung was selected Program Chairman. There were 12 men present and they had \$7.10 in the treasury. The group enjoyed a wiener roast with Joe Woodcox acting chef.

The first project was the Lord's Acre. This was a success and some of the money was used to buy paint for the church.

Many other meetings have been held with fish fries and chili suppers. Minutes from the January 1950 meeting tell of a fish fry with 60 men and boys present. "Our main difficulty was we couldn't fry fish fast enough for the hungry mob." Available records were kept of this early group up to 1954.





## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Years ago there used to be a Sunday school superintendent whose duties were to get teachers, order materials and to lead the opening before Sunday school began.

Each Sunday during the opening, songs were sung, scripture was read, reports were given, and there was prayer. These openings have been discontinued.

The classes used to have parties in the homes.

The Children's Director used to get teachers, order materials and generally oversee the Sunday school department. Now the Commission on Education is responsible for the Sunday school.

Today we have two adult Sunday School Classes and classes for the children according to age. Colorful teaching materials and Bible based curriculum make Sunday School interesting and fun. Children are encouraged to memorize Bible verses, Books of the Bible, and certain facts of the Bible. During the year, the children present special programs for the congregation during the worship service. A special project has been supporting a child from Ethiopia through World Vision.







## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

A very important ministry of Cedar Creek Church is Vacation Bible School. Children of the church family and area children join together in a week of Bible Stories, Bible verses, songs and crafts. Other favorite times are recreation, refreshments, and the special puppet appearances.

A Sunday VBS program is presented for the parents, grandparents, and church family.







## MEMBERSHIP

Membership classes prepare youth and adults for baptism and church membership.



In April 1998 the following members were recognized as having the longest known membership at Cedar Creek. Edith Yarde passed away on June 5, 1998.

### Walter Lung – 78 YEARS

Walter has been a member of Cedar Creek Church since 1920! He has been a very active member, serving as a Sunday School teacher, Sunday School Superintendent, financial secretary, as well as serving on the Church Board.

### Eunice Heitz – 73 YEARS

Eunice became a member on April 19, 1925. Eunice has attended very regularly and has been on the Mission and Witness commission, Nominating committees, and has been a member of Women's Fellowship.

### Helen Tooman – 72 YEARS

Helen has been a member at Cedar Creek since May 18, 1926. She has always been very active serving many years as Food Director for Women's Fellowship. Helen has also served on the Mission and Witness Commission, Church Board, and has helped with VBS.



### Eloise Knott – 71 YEARS

Eloise was baptized on June 6, 1927. She has been very involved with church activities. Eloise has been a Sunday School teacher, CBYF Counselor, Women's Fellowship food director and aid director, Church Board chair and served on the Missions commission.

### Edith Yarde – 70 YEARS

Edith became a member at Cedar Creek in 1928. Since being a member, Edith has been a Sunday School teacher, Children's Director, Women's Fellowship president and vice-president, as well as all the other offices, and served on the Ministerial commission.







## EXPERIENCES SHARED BY RETHA (BLOOM) RUGER

In the early 1970's, I was asked to fill out a two-year term as treasurer of District Women's Fellowship. Then I was elected for another two-year term. This was a most rewarding position. Through these years I learned to know many women from the district and to help plan and participate in Women's Camp at Camp Mack. Several years later I again served as CBWF District Treasurer for four years. During these years, Anna Ruth Haynes (Cedar Lake), Ruth Lung (Cedar Lake), Ellen Snyder (Blue River), and Iris Thomas (Pleasant Chapel) were on the cabinet, too, and we rode together to cabinet meetings all over Northern Indiana.

In the early 1950's working for Arlo Gump, I was introduced to being a part of Northern Indiana Youth Cabinet and Regional Youth Cabinet. This was a five state (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Michigan and Ohio) region. I served as a sectional representative and editor of the Northern Lights newsletter for the No. Indiana Youth Cabinet. On the Regional Youth Cabinet, I helped with a newsletter and represented Northern Indiana serving on different committees. This was a two-year term and it was a learning experience.

In 1957 I was asked by Ed Crill, the Youth Director of the Church of the Brethren to write a section in the CBYF Program Kit for the year 1958-59. I took the challenge and with Arlo Gump's help I sent in the manuscript by August 1, 1957. I was given a token of \$10.00 and this was in the 1958-59 CBYF Program Kit. It was entitled, "Keep on Growing".

Several of we older youth in Northern Indiana felt we needed an organized group for fellowship, fun and meaningful events. We met, organized and held events 2-3 times a year. It made a slow start, but to this day there are still events for college age or older to have fellowship and fun. In the March 2, 1958 Horizons, the youth paper for the Church of the Brethren, I wrote an article titled, "The Church and Older Youth", Northern Indiana's first meeting was held over Thanksgiving weekend in 1957. Florence Bloom was "cook" for several of these events which were held at Camp Mack.

A poem written on March 28, 1957 and published in HORIZONS

### SPRING CALL

The countryside comes forth with life that is new.  
Is this grand opening just for me and you?  
For us alone? No, but for all who see God's gifts  
In nature rich and free.  
Birds lift their songs on high, flowers bloom not asking why,  
Spring with budding beauty calls God's children  
to new joy and duty.

Retha Bloom





## NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

The first National Youth Conference held by the Church of the Brethren happened in 1954 at Anderson College, Anderson, In. Nancy Smith and I attended the four-day event. My parents took us down and the "fellows" (Gordon Bloom, Fred Knott, and Tom Smith picked us up. We had a great time—speakers, singing, workshops, cafeteria style meals, dorm living, and after the evening program—snacks, recreation, and meeting youth from all over the U. S. David Albright from Idaho was the choir director and song leader. Bob Richards, a Brethren, was a speaker. He was an athlete of the 50's, whom many youth admired. As far as I know, from that time on, the National Youth Conference has been held every four years.

Retha (Bloom) Ruger

In August of 1966, I attended the National Youth Conference on the campus of Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. We had worship services, study groups and fun times while there. It was a spiritually enlightening experience. The campus was a beautiful setting for God's young people.

Linda Pfierman

The 1974 National Youth Conference was a great experience for me and I want to thank the church for making it possible for me to attend. This particular summer was very pivotal in my life. In November of 1973, I finally surrendered my life to the Lord. Sure I had gone to church with Mom and Dad and been a part of the youth group, but I was just going through the motions in many ways. As a young Christian, the conference impressed me as so many Christian young people were gathered to grow together and have fellowship with one another. Although I don't recall the specific topics that were covered, I know it was a growing and maturing experience for me.

Don Dickison



Brent Ruger attended the National Youth Conference in 1978 held at Colorado Springs, Colorado. He traveled by train with youth from the Agape and Cedar Lake churches. Anna Mow was one of the speakers who really made an impression on the youth. She was in her early 80's, but would joke, tell Bible stories (that made you a part of them), get youth to talking, even though they thought they could not do so in a group, and was a true Christian. Our bunk house was a mile from the main center so walking was the mode of travel and we did a lot of it—up and down the sides of “high” hills !!!!! It was a good experience.

Brent Ruger

Also attending—Nancy Smith, 1954 and Dan Riccius, 1974





## BRETHREN VOLUNTEER SERVICE

My BVS experience was a little different than most as I had a paid position with the University of Maryland (if \$3,000 plus or minus per year is considered being paid!). I did go through the BVS training at New Windsor, Maryland. Those few weeks there counted towards my two years of alternative service. We were the 43<sup>rd</sup> BVS unit and called ourselves the 43<sup>rd</sup> Herd. It was a great bunch of gals and guys. Chuck Boyer was in our unit (later he became the Church of the Brethren moderator). A lot of us had graduated from college before entering BVS.

The remainder of my two years I spent working in the Department of Agronomy, helping to do research on corn, oats and wheat. Living at College Park, Maryland gave me the opportunity to be close to Washington, D. C. Some of the highlights of being this close to the Nation's Capitol included being in the National Presbyterian Church services with President Eisenhower (3-4 times). Attending the inauguration of John F. Kennedy, and being at the Washington Monument to see the 49<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> American flag raised for the first time, representing the new states of Hawaii and Alaska on July 4, 1960.

Gordon Bloom (1959-1961)

I wanted to give a year of service to the church and God. I decided to serve through BVS. In July of 1965 I went to the training center in New Windsor, Maryland, for two months of study and work. For half the day I worked at sorting and packing clothes for Church World Services. The other half-day was studying the Bible, ourselves, and motives for being there. I met Dan West during this time.

I was assigned to the "Home" in Girard, Illinois; a home for the elderly. I did cleaning, helped in the kitchen and anything else that was required. It was an eye opening experience of how elderly with no family had to live out their days. It was depressing at times, but there were good experiences, too. The people were fun to be around.

I received \$10.00 a month for my personal expenses. The year was educational and spiritually enlightening.

Linda Pfierman (1965-1966)





After graduating from high school and attending one semester at Manchester College in 1968, I decided to devote one year of my life to the Brethren Volunteer Service Program. The first two months of the year were spent at New Windsor, Maryland, providing me with an extensive training program. Afterwards, I was sent to Bethesda, Maryland for three months and served as a volunteer patient, often times referred to as "guinea pig control patient". To complete the remaining seven months of my service project, I chose to volunteer my services at Bethany Brethren Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. While in Chicago, I lived with nine other Brethren Volunteer Service workers. My year spent was exciting, rewarding, very enlightening and quite memorable.

Marcia (Lung) Laundre  
(1969-1970)



## WASHINGTON, D. C. YOUTH SEMINAR

In March of 1955 I attended the youth seminar going by bus from Manchester College; stopping at New Windsor, headquarters for overseas shipments of food and clothing to the needy countries. The head chef at the Center had planned and helped with the meals at the Anderson Youth Conference the year before, when I had attended. In D. C. we met Senators, Representatives, visited the Library of Congress, Supreme Court, the Capitol, offices of a few congressmen, and Arlington Cemetery. We had sessions learning more of the procedures that are gone through to present a bill to congress and some of the workings of the government at that time. It was a good experience. Then we traveled on to New York City—the main purpose was to visit the United Nations. This building had been opened the year of 1953 and was known at that time for its beauty. We spent two half days there. We spent time listening to delegates from countries belonging to the U. N. and interpreters gave us the English version. The other time was spent going out to visit the Statue of Liberty, window shopping (Sak Fifth Avenue and all of it's splendor), Radio City Music Hall, seeing the famous Rockettes. A first for us was to see a machine where you could put money in, push a button and a sandwich would come out. Leaving New York City at night we started for Indiana. This was a great experience for me.

Retha (Bloom) Ruger

In the February of 1957, a year following graduation from Garrett High School, Nancy (Yarde) Potter and I attended the Brethren Youth Seminar. Nancy was a student at Manchester College and I was employed at Brotherhood Mutual Life Insurance Company in Ft. Wayne. We traveled to Manchester College, left there by bus, spent three days in D. C. and two days at the United Nations in New York City. We visited Capitol Hill, were guests of State Dept. officials, visited foreign embassies, experience press interviews, Library of Congress, and many other places. In New York City, we visited the United Nations Headquarters and Radio City Music Hall. Screen attractions in D. C., in 1957, were "The Ten Commandments" and the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, "Oklahoma". Admission was \$1.50.

Dwight D. Eisenhower was president, Richard Nixon was Vice President, Ed Crill was our National Youth Director and Ralph Smeltzer was the Director of Social Education for the Church of the Brethren, and Glenn Mulligan was pastor at Cedar Creek Church. Who would believe....that was 41 years ago!!!! The seminar was a great learning experience and helped me to realize at a young age, there is a place for a Christian in politics.

Nancy V. (Smith) Lantz





In February 1958, I was a junior at Garrett High School and Marilyn (Fulk) Wiant, and Barbara (Gerber) Shoudel were both seniors. We were privileged to take the trip to Washington D. C. and New York City for the Youth Seminar. The first morning in D. C. we had a session at the hotel about our government and how it operated. One day we skipped the sessions, rented a limousine with a black driver (he was a character) and he gave us a historical drive---Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Fords Theater, Smithsonian Institute, and other places. Then we went to New York City and toured the United Nations Building. The tour guides were youth from the member countries. We saw the rooms where the member nations and Security Council met. It was a memorable trip for me. We were excused for that week, because it was basically an educational trip. It was one of the highlights of my High School years. I thank the Lord that I was blessed to take this trip while the Church of the Brethren was still sponsoring it.

Sharon (Pfierman) Bashore

Marilyn (Fulk) Wiant's account of expense of the Seminar was: Registration, \$35.00, Bus trip, to and from, \$29.00, and Hotel room per night, \$2.00.





## CALLED TO THE MINISTRY

Dan Riccius writes-----

I remember at about age 10 going to Vacation Bible School at Cedar Creek. I didn't know any of the children, but they seemed friendly enough. I went because someone picked me up and dropped me off and Mom thought it would be a good thing for me to do. I went to VBS until I started working every summer.

At about age 10 our family started going to Cedar Creek and I started to gain an appreciation for the beliefs of the Church of the Brethren. After my early upbringing in the Catholic Church, I was especially drawn to being able to choose if I wanted to be baptized.

I went through Jr. High and became part of the Senior High. I was challenged to believe in Jesus, read the Bible, and do good-things. During my Junior year in High School, I was baptized. After my senior year, I was youth group president. I stayed in the group two years after graduation. An Earn and Serve worker from Manchester College encouraged me to look at a college education, so I went for a tour and decided to go later that same summer.

I went to National Youth Conference in 1974, was a counselor at Camp Mack for the first time, and started college all within one month. After three years at Manchester, I was licensed to the ministry and served a scholarship at the Mount Morris Church of the Brethren for the summer before finishing my senior year.

I hope this will enable you to provide a better look at what Cedar Creek has meant to me through the years.





## FAMILY HISTORY

Thanks so much for the invitation to the celebration on September 13<sup>th</sup> of Cedar Creek's 125 years as a separate congregation and fellowship of the Church of the Brethren. In reflection, its beginning was just eight years after the nation's bloody Civil War. When you think of the great changes that have taken place in our nation and world since then, there is abundant reason to celebrate the perseverance in discipleship and the continuing fellowship at Cedar Creek Church of the Brethren.

I am afraid we'll not be able to be with you. It seems travel is not very possible for us these days. We'll certainly be thinking of your joyful activities on your day of celebration.

As for memories of Cedar Creek, I have many fond ones. About 1928 I and several other young lads joined the Auburn congregation of the Church of the Brethren. Since Auburn Church did not yet have a baptistry, we were baptized in the big metal tank in the Cedar Creek Church basement. Mother told me that when my Sister Ruth's baptism took place by breaking the thin ice over the creek for the ritual when she joined the Cedar Creek congregation at an early age, her suffering with arthritis completely disappeared. Ruth was 17 years older than me and I was glad for the progress made in facilities by the time of my baptism.

Members of my parental family were members of Cedar Creek Church before moving to Auburn the year before my birth. Therefore, ties remained close to the Cedar Creek fellowship. Father and mother frequently took me with them in visiting friends of their former community and services at Cedar Creek. The Stonestreets, the Frank Shenks, the Smiths, the Hagues, the Hawwers, Perry, Effie, and Lena Gump, in addition to Ober kinfolk, I remember all quite well.

Finally the day came, when visiting services at Cedar Creek, my parents weary from my importunity, allowed me to sit with friends Leo Morris and Jack Deveny and others in the balcony at the rear of the sanctuary during services. I guess the twitterings issuing from the balcony were distracting enough for Claude and Mary Hanson to return me to my former place between them.

I think members of five generations of Hanson descendants have been congregants of Cedar Creek, from Grandfather Merritt and Grandmother Anna (Ober) Hanson to present members Retha(Bloom)Ruger and Jack Ruger.

Through the years our family members have often returned "home" to Cedar Creek sanctuary to bid our loved ones final farewells upon their departure from this mortal life to glory and their heavenly rewards. At those times your members and former Pastors T. G. Weaver, Glen Mulligan, and most recently Pastor McFarland have helped us in those moments of grieving. Thanks so much.



We pray God's blessing of your celebration and that Cedar Creek Church of the Brethren will continue to flourish in the years to come. "Forward through the ages, in unbroken line, move the faithful spirits at the call divine..."

Sincerely,

Marvin and Mary Hanson

I guess I first attended Cedar Creek in the early 1930's when my father, Russell Sherman, was a part-time pastor briefly, or perhaps "pulpit supply". I was a baby then, so I am not sure of dates. Later, 1947-48, when a junior and senior in high school, I attended the youth class taught by Jesse Ober, along with Dick Ober and Joe DeVeney. One of our Garrett High School buddies, Norval Withrow, joined us a few times as our high school "Senior Quartet" sang in the worship service. This was all during the era of "walk up the ramp" at the east entrance to the church, with the youth meeting behind folding doors (I think) at the northeast corner of the main level. Much later, my mother, Marie Sherman, as a widow, drove to Cedar Creek from Garrett to worship in the late '60's and early '70's. Her funeral service was held in the modern remodeled sanctuary, in Nov. 1974. Cedar Creek Church has touched my life meaningfully and at significant times over the years. May she continue to witness and serve boldly in the decades to come!

Marvin Sherman





## FROM THE PAST

People used to be baptized in a big water tank in the basement. Sometimes people were baptized in the winter, often having to break the ice to get into the water, and then go home in a horse and buggy. No one ever got sick!

Alice Yarde was the first to be baptized in the new baptistry. Women would get a prayer covering when they were baptized.

Mauling—Aunt Dolphie was banned from the church because she wore a hat to church instead of a bonnet. An ironic fact is that Effie Gump was the daughter of the preacher who did the banishing and she played for Dolphie's funeral wearing big straw hat with flowers on it.

The first Easter Sunrise Service was held in 1938. The Pastor was A. F. Morris. Everyone stayed outside to watch the sun rise and then went inside for the worship service.

During worship and time of prayer, people would turn around and kneel by the seat to pray.



dar Creek Church of the Brethren

Building Treasurer's Report

October 1, 1957

Income and Expenditures - September 1, 1955 to October 1, 1957

Income

Cash on hand September 1, 1955 used as cash to pay bills	\$ 409.91
Balance in Savings Account August 31, 1955	5,806.28
Paid into treasury September 1, 1955 to October 1, 1957	19,527.94
Borrowed June 1, 1957	7,500.00
Interest on Savings	147.69
Total	<u>\$33,391.82</u>

Expenditures

Advertising and Promotion (paid in cash to church treasury)	\$ 59.91
Anderson, Jim (Ditch)	104.00
Architect (Paid in Cash)	350.00
Ashenfelter (Plastering)	1,683.46
Auburn Concrete	1,196.02
Bloomington Limestone (Cross and Portals)	600.00
Brotherhood Mutual Life Ins. Co. (Ins. on volunteer help)	43.70
Brotherhood Mutual Life Ins. Co. (Materials)	22.65
Burtzner and Wilhelm (Sand)	26.85
Canfield Lumber Company	114.65
Customerate, Inc. (Folding Doors)	512.08
Endicott (Furniture)	1,459.90
5 & 1.00 Store	40.49
Garrett Lumber Company	9,240.54
Gisel and Sons (Furnace)	3,914.49
Harlans	730.73
Haney Glass	100.00
Harrod Roofing	180.00
Heitz, Emory (Electric Goods)	792.94
Hixson (Sand)	67.46
Huntertown Grain & Lumber Company	182.04
Indiana - Michigan Electric Company	28.00
Irwin Readymix	314.40
Jackson Draperies (Laying Tile)	256.81
Labor	7,154.44
LaOtto Metal Fabricating Company	288.42
Lumm, Charles F.	14.95
Meierjohn & Wingler (Lights in Sanctuary)	468.60
Myers, Earl (Digging)	353.25
Smolek, James (Sandstone)	409.10
S & S Oil Company (Tank)	133.00
Supreme Transit Mix	635.50
Wyatts General Merchandising Store (Blocks)	774.20
Total	<u>\$32,252.58</u>

Now in Treasury

Balance on Hand	\$ 1,139.24
-----------------	-------------

. . . . .

In addition to the above and separate from it, we have since September 1, 1957, paid on our debt \$500, which together with a personal gift of \$500 has reduced our note at the bank to about \$6,500. We have in this account a balance of \$90.85 to be applied on the debt.





# THE CHURCH IN ACTION











\*Bade, Steven  
 \*Bashore, Sharon  
 \*Bennett, Karen  
 \*Barry, Jeff  
 \*Barry, Todd  
     Bishop, Stanley  
 \*Brumbaugh, George  
 \*Brumbaugh, Harry  
 \*Brumbaugh, Linda  
 \*Buchmeier, Richard  
 \*Buchmeier, Donna  
 \*Buchmeier, ronald  
 \*Carpenter, Pramod  
 \*Chisholm, Chris  
 \*Chisholm, Jerry  
 \*Chisholm, Marcia  
     Chisholm, Susan  
     Chisholm, Danielle  
 \*Chisholm, Wilma  
 \*Coyne, Jean  
 \*Crain, Dawn  
 \*Crain, John  
     Crain, Joshua  
 \*Crain, Joyce  
 \*Crowe, Brent  
 \*Crowe, David  
 \*Crowe, Nancy  
 \*Fulk, Eugene  
 \*Fulk, Jesse  
     Fulk, Sarah Lu  
 \*Gerber, Carl  
 \*Gerber, Doris  
 \*Gerber, Greg  
     Gerber, James  
     Gerber, Jeremy  
     Gerber, Joe  
 \*Gerber, Mary  
     Gerber, Noni  
     Gerber, Sheena  
     Gerber, Tammi  
     Gerber, Tonee  
     Gerber, Travis  
 \*Gingrich, Reva  
 \*Gordon, Jerome  
     Graft, Andrea  
     Graft, Dylan

Graft, Kris  
 Graft, John  
 \*Gravit, Mary  
 \*Grey, Anita  
 \*Harding, James  
 \*Harding, Martha  
 \*Harding, Michael  
     Harshman, Chad  
     Harshman, Heather  
 \*Harshman, Judy  
     Harshman, Stuart  
     Heitz, Emory  
 \*Heitz, Eunice  
 \*Heitz, Kenneth  
     Heitz, Kenneth, Jr.  
     Heitz, Kimberly  
     Heitz, Sharon  
 \*Holbrook, Fay  
     Howser, Adina  
     Howser, Amanda  
     Howser, Dustin  
     Howser, Martin  
 \*Jay, Audrey  
     Joseph, Marilyn  
 \*Knott, Arlene  
     Knott, Colby  
 \*Knott, Eloise  
 \*Knott, Fred  
 \*Knott, Jackie  
 \*Knott, James  
 \*Knott, Jeff  
 \*Knott, JoEllen  
     Knott, Jordyn  
     Knott, Katie  
     Knott, Mallory  
 \*Knott, Rebecca  
 \*Knott, Rob  
 \*Knott, Robert  
 \*Knott, Timothy  
 \*Knott, William  
 \*Koble, Jami  
 \*Lantz, Lawrence  
 \*Lantz, Timothy  
     Lopshire, Etta  
 \*Lopshire, Gene  
     Lopshire, Sharon



\*Lung, Lucille  
 \*Lung, Walter  
 Lutter, Linda  
 Lutter, Randy  
 \*Martin, Joan  
 \*Martin, John  
 \*Matthews, Jennifer  
 \*McClish, Janet  
 \*McFarland, John  
 \*McFarland, Naomi  
 \*Menges, Margaret  
 \*Montoya, David  
 \*Montoya, Miguel  
 \*Montoya, Sharon  
 \*Moody, Georgia  
 \*Mossberger, Belva  
 Mossberger, Craig  
 \*Mossberger, Eric  
 Parrett, Angie  
 Parrett, April  
 \*Parrett, Cheryl  
 Parrett, Daniel  
 Parrett, Stan  
 \*Pfierman, Floyd  
 \*Pfierman, Linda  
 \*Pfierman, Rebekah  
 \*Phillips, Sandra  
 Quiononez, Megan  
 Quiononez, Stacy  
 Quiononez, Tyler  
 \*Raymer, Teresa  
 \*Ruger, Jack  
 \*Ruger, Retha  
 \*Tooman, Helen  
 \*VanAllen, Kathy  
 \*VanAllen, Steven  
 \*Ward, Gerald  
 Ward, Adam  
 Ward, Brooke  
 Ward, Travis  
 \*Weller, Gerry  
 \*Western, LeighAnne  
 \*Winebrenner, Carla  
 Winebrenner, Kelsey  
 Winebrenner, Scott  
 Woodcox, Arlyn

Woodcox, John  
 Woodcox, Scott  
 Woodcox, Vickie  
 \*Workman, Norma  
 Yager, Lorele  
 \*Yager, Wayne  
 \*Yarde, Alice,  
 \*Yarde, Andrea  
 \*Yarde, Edith  
 Yarde, Kyle  
 Yarde, Lindsey  
 \*Yarde, R. Dale  
 \*Yarde, Rae Ann  
 \*Yarde, Terry  
 \*Yarde, Thomas  
 \*Young, Joe

Lopshire, Warren  
 \*Rinehold, Heidi  
 Scheurich, Anna  
 Shaffer, Alice  
 Shenk, Audra  
 \*Shenk, Dennis  
 \*Shenk, Douglas  
 \*Shenk, Evanell  
 \*Shenk, Lee

Shenk, Matthew  
 Shenk, Stephanie  
 \*Shirk, Ruth  
 Snyder, Jack  
 Snyder, Jeffery  
 Snyder, Mabel  
 Snyder, Melissa











**Eckhart Public Library**

603 S. Jackson Street Auburn, IN 46706  
Phone: 219-925-2414

Patron is responsible for all  
material borrowed.

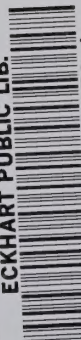
**HECKMAN**

INDERY, INC.  
Bound-To-Pleas®

**APRIL 03**

MANCHESTER, INDIANA 46962

ECKHART PUBLIC LIB.



8401 9100 122 650 1



